



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC HEARING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2011**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Holden Beach met for a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 6:45 p.m. Present were Mayor J. Alan Holden; Mayor Pro Tem Don Glander; Commissioners Ray Lehr, Ken Kyser; Sandy Miller and Sheila Young; Town Manager David W. Hewett; Town Clerk Heather Finnell; Building Official Tim Evans; and Parks & Recreations Programs Coordinator Amanda Rose.

**PUBLIC HEARING - Proposed Changes to Chapter 157: Zoning Code of the Holden Beach Code of Ordinance (§157.025 Bulkheads on Canal Lots)**

Town Manager Hewett explained there has been significant interest in bulkheads since the canal dredging project. Last October's rains, coupled with acts of the General Assembly that delayed existing permits pushed the Town to take an additional look at the bulkhead ordinance. The changes have been reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Board. Building Official Evans explained that the ordinance was rearranged. The new ordinance that required bulkheads on all lots by 2012 was in conflict with the existing ordinance because it allowed a year to put in a bulkhead if one didn't exist. That section was removed and replaced with the requirement that all lots have bulkheads by 2012. He explained they went into the subsequent ordinance rearranged it and added a sentence that required them to keep any sediment from going into the canals while they were doing the repairs. Building Official Evans stated it is his intention to complete a lot by lot survey by the end of the month to determine lots that do not have bulkheads or ones that need to be repaired. He hopes to send out letters notifying homeowners of any needs once the survey is completed.

Nydia Glander stated that last year one of her neighbor's bulkheads collapsed. She stated it took them six months to have it fixed. She inquired if three months is enough time.

Dennis Harrington stated he has been requesting repairs on his current bulkhead since November and he has yet to get anyone to do the work. He doesn't feel 90 days is sufficient for minor repairs that might be deemed necessary by the Town. He feels it should at least be extended to 120 days. Mr. Harrington stated the Town should support some sort of method for homeowners to be able to check if there are any complaints regarding the contractors. He stated he doesn't have a problem with the overall ordinance, but the time limit is too short.

Sarah Sue Ingram stated she was holding her breath when it was raining so hard because she doesn't have the money to replace her bulkheads if they collapsed. When her neighbor's collapsed, it cost him \$14,000 for a vinyl bulkhead and he needed to sell his Microsoft stock to pay for it. It cost her other neighbor \$9,000 for a wooden one. Ms. Ingram stated she sees both sides of the issue. When the one collapsed at the canal between Dolphin and Swordfish, they didn't get it fixed for awhile and it was dumping debris into the water. Trout and flounder like clear water. She stated on the other hand, how many people have the money to repair them in this economy.

Mayor Holden closed the public hearing at 6:55 p.m.

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J. Alan Holden, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heather Finnell, Town Clerk